



press release

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SPECIAL DESPATCHES FOR REGINA MARIS

Special Despatches have been entrusted to Captains John and Sigfried Wilson to carry aboard the Regina Maris out to Australia in the Wake of Captain Cook and safely deliver these on their arrival.

Admiral Sir Michael Le Fanu, G.C.B., D.Sc., The First Sea Lord, is sending a Despatch to Vice-Admiral Sir A. L. Smith, Chief of Australian Naval Staff. The Order to the Captains to carry the First Sea Lord's Despatch has been taken from the time of Captain Cook and reads as follows:-

"Whereas you are to receive herewith a pacquet for Vice-Admiral Sir A. L. Smith, Chief of Australian Naval Staff which pacquet contains Dispatches of very great importance to the Public Service; you are hereby required and directed to put to sea in the Ship you command at the very first opportunity of Wind and Weather and to proceed without a moments loss of time to Australia.

You are to keep a proper weight constantly affixed to the pacquet and in case you shall meet with an enemy of superior force, and find it impossible to avoid being taken, you are to throw the said pacquet overboard."

Sir Alexander Downer, K.B.E., High Commissioner for Australia, is sending a Despatch to the Prime Minister of Australia.

The Honourable A. J. White, Agent-General for Tasmania, is sending a Despatch to The Honourable W. A. Bethune, Premiere of Tasmania. He is also sending a document illustrating the Regina Maris to the Cook Museum at Adventure Bay, Tasmania, which will be framed and hung in the Museum.

The Honourable A. Landa, C.M.G., LL.B., Agent-General for New South Wales, is sending a Despatch to The Honourable R. W. Askin, Premiere of New South Wales.